105.2248_interviewfolder_n.d._p1

ALMEDA HARKINS

Resident of 108 Richardson Street, New Brunswick, N. J.

About 7.30 Thursday evening, September 14, 1922, went walking with her children and Mrs. Blust along Richards Street to Easton Avenue and then towards De Russeys Lane. Had known Mrs. Mills for two years while in church choir and Mrs. Mills passed her near the Vocational School on that side of Eastern Avenue going towards De Russeys Lane. Mrs. Mills did not seem to be in a hurry and did not speak, but smiled. About 15 minutes later Mr. Hall passed, walking fast towards the Lane, neither Mrs. Harkins nor Mr. Hall speaking. It was 8 o'clock by the Vocational School clock, the school being about three-quarters of a mile from De Russeys Lane. Mrs. Harkins thought Mrs. Mills had a package under her arm about the size of the love letter exhibit, but is not positive about it, and will not say so for sure. Did mention package in a talk with a "Star Eagle" reporter, but never talked with a "New York World" reporter. On Sunday, September 17th saw a bloodly burlap bag and peach basket and some newspapers at Easton Avenue and De Russeys Lane and mentioned matter to David but was not taken to spot to show where she saw them.

105. 2248 p2

ALMEDA HARKINS

August 18, 1926

Resident of 108 Richardson Street
New Brunswick.

TESTIFIED: (pages 538 et seq.):

Went walking about 7.30 Thursday, September 14, 1922 with her children and Mrs. Blust. Walked from home to Easton Avenue, turned towards De Russeys Lane and reached Vocational School (539).

Knew Mrs. Mills for two years while in church choir (539).

Saw her near Vocational School on same side of Easton Avenue going towards De Russeys Lane. Mrs. Mills did not speak as she passed (541).

About fifteen minutes later Dr. Hall, walking fast towards De Russeys Lane, past Mrs. Harkins on same side of street without either of them speaking (542-3).

Vocational School about three-quarters of mile from De Russeys Lane (542).

CROSSEXAMINATION:

Saw the Vocational School clock and Dr. Hall passed at just 8 o'clock (544-5).

Mrs. Mills smiled as she passed Mrs. Harkins and did not appear to be in a hurry (545).

Dr. Hall passed before Mrs. Harkins recognized him (546).

Mrs. Harkins thought Mrs. Mills had a package under her arm about the size of the love letter exhibits (546-8).

REDIRECT:

Not positive about seeing package (548).

Not interviewed on behalf of defendants or Mrs. Hall prior to testifying (549).

Did mention package in a talk with Star-Eagle reporter (549).

Won't say positively woman had a package under her arm (549).

On Sunday September 17 visited scene of murder and saw bloody burlap bag at Easton Avenue and De Russeys Lane (549-50).

A burlap bag, a peach basket and some newspapers (550).

Shortly thereafter called David's attention to these articles but not taken to spot to show where she saw them (550).

RE-CROSSEXAMINATION:

Never talked with a New York World reporter or made a statement to him as to seeing Mrs. Mills with package and making a mental note of how tightly she held it (551-2).

Will not say for sure that she saw a package or anything under Mrs. Mills arm. (554).